

then leaves ... as Aunt Maple goes into the kitchen after her pills,

Garlic Oil for anti-clotting activity,

Yeast as antioxidant, B-complex, selenium content,

E for varicosities and skin tone ..., transparent in the Kansas morning light, bright, expanding, like the first atomic bomb ever searing the Los Alamos desert morning air.

ORDINARY PEOPLE

It begins with never enough, you sleep on the dining room "studio" couch, your parents on the sofa-bed in the living room, you think Russia and space-lack, I'm talking about Chicago, 1940,

never enough food or clothes or books or paper or pencils, you become "small," always opt for the plainest, it's the Invisible Church-Mouse Syndrome, Lord, I Am Not Worthy,

you lower Death of a Salesman Dad down in the grave, Mom hangs (increasingly silly) on, you never can make a big sandwich or laugh a big laugh,

it's always wry defensiveness, you keep it all out with a word wall,

lower Mom down,

and, of course, Jay's gotta drink and Lisa's gotta get strangled, Chicago grows big against wee-one respectability, against the Americana maple living-room, the braided rag-rug, the converted-to-electricity kerosene storm-lamp hanging over the maple-slab dining-room table,

can you believe your big (red) lipped, big (mascared) eyed, big (all her) titted, bouncy Sister Rita's 65 (you're 50), who do you lower down next,

as you (2 weeks) look for daffodils in the Lake Country, for The Rock at Brighton, Tess at Stonehenge, god on Dover Beach,

two weeks,

you feel it's a kind of final Death-Watch Tour -- the English Literary Pilgrimage.